

1372 Seventh street  
San Diego, California  
November 29, 1923

Mr. Charles F. Lummis,  
200 East Avenue 43,  
Los Angeles, California.

My Dear Mr. Lummis:

Since I first had the pleasure of meeting you back in 1887, I have read many interesting and instructive stories from your pen. And now I note that, according to our good friend, Mr. John S. McGroarty, you are about to give to the world the Old Songs of California.

The late Alfred B. Nye, during his term as State Controller, was engaged in compiling many poems by California authors, and I believe he continued the task up to the time of his death a few years ago. But I never heard that they were published. I believe his widow is still residing in Oakland.

For a good many years I have been accumulating a typographic and journalistic library, which has now reached quite large proportions, and will in the near future be made accessible to the public. For instance, I have a complete file of the Cincinnati Literary Gazette for the year 1824, very rare, and in perfect condition; also the first copy of Illinois' first daily paper, the Chicago Daily

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American, April 9, 1839; Chicago then had barely 6000 inhabitants; it has become quite thickly settled back of the meeting house since then! Also a copy of the mammoth annual paper, "Brother Jonathan," for 1849; also copies of the Chicago papers and of the New York Ledger during the Civil War period. Also many books written by, for and about newspaper men - the Chicago Tribune's "W.G.N.," the New York Evening Post's "Century of Journalism," etc.

If you should see fit to add to this collection a copy of your Old Songs of California, or any other of the many notable works by yourself, I can assure you that they would be deeply appreciated and given a particularly honored position in my library.

With best wishes I am, as ever,

Very sincerely yours,

*Clark Alberti*



Jan. 3, 1924.

Mr. Clark Alberti,  
1372 7th Street,  
San Diego, Cal.

Dear Mr. Alberti:

Your good letter has been sidetracked with a great many others in my rush of publishing the Spanish Songs.

That is an interesting and worth-while hobby you ride-- making up such a library as that-- you certainly have some treasures, and I wish I might sometime see them.

While I look on the Spanish Songs as rather more of a Trust than a personal venture, since all the proceeds are to go back into the publishing of more Songs, I think I shall have to make an exception to the general rule and add a copy to your archives for preservation there.

Wishing you good luck and "good hunting" this New Year,

Sincerely Yours,